

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 0637

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

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SUBJ: FIFTH CPPCC CONCLUDES; TENG HSIAO PING ELECTED CHAIRMAN

1. SUMMARY: THE FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTH NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S POLITICAL CONSULTATIVE CONVERENCE (CPPCC), CONCLUDED MARCH 8 WITH LITTLE FANFARE. TENG HSIAO-PING WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE ORGANIZATION WHICH SYMBOLICALLY REPRESENTS A BROAD AMALGAMATION OF "UNITED FRONT" LEFTIST POLITICAL PARTIES AND OTHER "DEMOCRATIC PERSONAGES." PRELIMINARY MEDIA COVERAGE OF THE PROCEEDINGS INDICATES THAT THE CONFERENCE DID LITTLE MORE THAN PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR THE DECISIONS OF THE HUA KUO-FENG-DOMINATED FIFTH NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS WHICH ENDED ON MARCH 5. END SUMMARY.

2. THE MARCH 8 CONCLUSION OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTH NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE CHINESE POLITICAL CONSULTA-
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PAGE 02 PEKING 00637 090911Z

TIVE CONFERENCE (CCPPCC) WAS ANNOUNCED OVER PEKING RADIO LATE ON MARCH 8. THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCED THAT TENG HSIAO-PING WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE LARGELY CEREMONIAL BODY AND A BROAD NUMBER OF PREDICTABLE "DEMOCRATIC" POLITICIANS AND "OTHER REPRESENTATIVES" WERE ELECTED AS VICE CHAIRMAN AND STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS. INCLUDED AMONG THE 22 VICE CHAIRMEN ARE KEY CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY

FIGURES SUCH AS ULANFU, HEAD OF THE PARTY'S UNITED FRONT DEPARTMENT, WEI KUO-CHING, AND SHEN YEN-PING. OTHER PROMINENT FIGURES SUCH AS WANG YUNG-SHENG, WANG PING:-NAN, SNEN CHIEN, PAO ER-HAN, CHU MU-CHIH, LIU TING, LI CHI, LI WEI-HAN, CHANG HSIANG-SHAN, CHOU YANG, FEI HSIAO-TUNG (PEKING UNIVERSITY SOCIOLOGIST), SHAIA YEN, HUANG CHEN AND THE WELL KNOWN HONG KONG PERSONAGE FEI I-MIN WERE INCLUDED AS MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE (TOTAL 243).

3. LITTLE MORE THAN A POWERLESS "UNITED FRONT" ORGANIZATION, THE FIFTH CPPCC SYMBOLICALLY ENDORSED THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIFTH NATIONAL PEOPLES CONGRESS WHICH CONCLUDED ON MARCH 5. THE COMMUNIQUE GAVE VERY BRIEF EXCERPTS OF TENG HSIAO-PING'S SPEECH (FULL TEXT NOT YET AVAILABLE) AT THE FIRST SESSION WHICH ALSO SUPPORTED THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED NPC. THE COMMUNIQUE ALSO ISSUED THE RITUAL CALL FOR BROAD UNITY AMONG DEMOCRATIC GROUPS AND OVERSEAS CHINESE FOR THE "LIBERATION OF TAIWAN". PEKING RADIO EARLY ON MARCH 8 BROADCAST THE TEXT OF A RELATIVELY SHORT EDITORIAL HAILING THE CONFERENCE AND SUPPOSRTING PRC UNITED FRONT POLICY TOWARD OVERSEAS CHINESE AND PRC FOREIGN POLICY.

4. COMMENT THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE CPCC HAS GONE ALMOST UNNOTICED SO FAR, CONTRARY TO SOME EXPECTATIONS THAT THE CPPCC WOULD MAKE A SPLASHER REAPPEARANCE TO SHOW REAWAKENED INTEREST IN UNITED FRONT ACTIVITY. THERE WERE NO "SPON-
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PAGE 03 PEKING 00637 090911Z

TANEOUS" CELEBRATIONS. PEKING RADIO MADE THE INITIAL 25 MINUTE REPORT ON THE FIRST SESSION ALMOST AS AN AFTERTHOUGHT, FIRST CARRYING A REPORT ON CHAIRMAN HUA KUO-FENG'S MEETING WITH A VISITING ROMANIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION. TEN HSIAO-PING GAINED VERY LITTLE FROM HIS APPOINTMENT AS HEAD OF THI SYMBOLIC AND POWERLESS ORGANIZATION. HUA'S IMPRINT ON THE RECENT LEADERSHIP MEETINGS WAS FURTHER UNDERSCORED BY TWNG'S AND THE CPPCC'S ENDORSEMENT OF THE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS AND HUA'S WORK REPORT.
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